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‘EV adoption scheme slapped on states and cities without giving freedom to choose operating model a violation’

‘FAME FATALE’

For FAME subsidy, state transport undertakings leasing buses mandatory

| Rachana Ramesh
c-rachana.ramesh
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

In an attempt to accelerate e-bus deployment and smoothen transition to electric vehicles (EVs) since 2015, the Centre has been implementing the Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid and) Electric Vehicles (FAME) subsidy scheme.

However, members from the bus commuter forums have noted that the scheme has cracked a path of privatisation of state transport undertakings (STUs).

> **“State transport undertakings will have less control over operations, and will be unable to ensure quality and undisrupted service** — Shaheen Shasa, Bengaluru Bus Prayanikara Vedike

“For the FAME subsidy, the lease model of procuring buses is mandatory. Since this is the only way the subsidy is available, STUs are forced to adopt the lease model even when they can and would prefer to buy and operate the buses themselves,” explained Shaheen Shasa from the Bengaluru Bus Prayanikara Vedike (BBPV).

“This is pushing towards privatisation – the driver is on contract from the leasing agency. The stipulated salaries and job security for the drivers will be low. Hence, commitment to the job will be low and attrition will be high. Quality, professionalism and training of drivers will be minimal, since private companies and operators won’t have any incentive to ensure the mentioned requirements. The STU will also have less control over

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State of health

Dog, snake bites register alarming increase across state, report says

| Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @sridharVMIRROR

The state health department recently released a quarterly report on the health of individuals in Karnataka. As per this report, the health department is facing a myriad of challenges as various diseases continue to pose threats to public health across Karnataka. Among these concerns, cholera remains a significant focal point, demanding urgent attention and proactive measures from health authorities. Cholera, known for its severe diarrhoeal symptoms and potential for rapid transmission in unsanitary conditions, requires robust surveillance and response strategies to prevent outbreaks and minimise its impact on communities.

“However, the health department’s challenges extend beyond cholera, encompassing a range of diseases that have shown worrying trends in recent data. One critical area of concern is the surge in Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (SARI) cases, which saw a stark increase from 117 cases in the last week of March to 3,390 cases this year. The rise in SARI cases highlights the need for enhanced respiratory disease management and surveillance protocols to address this escalating health issue effectively,” the report said.

Similarly, influenza cases have also seen a notable uptick, with numbers jumping from 48 cases in the last week of March to 358 cases this year. Acute diarrhoeal diseases, another prevalent health issue,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Furry fund raising

Calling all pet lovers! Spend a fun evening with a "fundraiser" by the Frazer Town Canine Squad alongside live music by Broko and the Bangalore Children's Choir (BCC), an art auction featuring works by Rajiv Eipe, Nidhi Jacob, Priya Kurian, and other budding artists of the city, and tonnes of delicious food (made and donated by people in the neighbourhood), desserts, doggie-themed merchandise, and games. All proceeds from the event support the treatment, rehabilitation, and rehoming of rescues and streeties from the Cooke Town/Frazer Town area. **When: April 21, 4 pm to 7 pm; Where: Lightroom bookstore, Cooke Town**

02 Blend of nature and art

Learn to extract inks from botanical sources using simple techniques and make your own artworks through a workshop on "Painting with botanical inks" facilitated by Sudha Palepu, a natural colour artist and exhibition designer. With an introduction to botanical colours, this workshop brings together elements of the everyday science of pigments in nature to create art. It also hopes to bring focus to what we call or consider 'waste' in our everyday lives and what we do with it.
When: April 21, 10 am to 2 pm
Where: Champaca Bookstore

03 Techno beats

Join for a night of cutting-edge techno and mesmerising visuals at Social's "Turbulence V3," where Stinger, Malware, and more are set to deliver an unforgettable night of hypnotic and hard groove techno, complemented by Vision of Sound's stunning audio reactive visuals.
When: April 21, 7 pm onwards
Where: Indiranagar Social, New Tippasandra

Blame game between PU dept, KEA over CET exams

Students allege 45 questions were out-of-syllabus, demand grace marks

Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Even as the debate rages on about 'too many' out-of-syllabus questions in this year's Common Entrance Test (CET), the blame game has begun between the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) and the PU department. KEA conducts the CET based on the PU syllabi framed by the PU department. The crucial query at hand is: Who is to blame?

Parents and students allege that this time, there were a total of 45 out-of-syllabus questions in the CET. Specifically, on the first day, biology had 10 such questions, mathematics had 11, and on the second day, physics had nine and chemistry had 15. The students now argue that since the exams were for 120 marks (60 for each subject), they should receive grace marks for these 45 questions.

Responding to the uproar, the KEA executive director has reached out to the PU director for details about the syllabus used in PU. However, the PU director stated that they bear no responsibility for the out-of-syllabus questions, raising the question of who is at fault. Many students are now questioning whether those setting the question papers were unaware of the syllabus contents. Student organizations are now pushing for either grace marks or a re-test. In a letter dated April 19, the KEA director had requested information on which chapters from the PU syllabi were omitted in both first and second years. The PU director clarified that they strictly adhere to the NCERT syllabus.

File photo of students writing CET exams

Candidates can raise concerns about the question paper until 5.30 pm on April 27 via email at keaugcet24@gmail.com

Out of 3.49 lakh registered candidates, approximately 92 per cent have taken the CET exams. Candidates can raise concerns about the question paper until 5.30 pm on April 27 via email at keaugcet24@gmail.com. Some students have suggested that tuition centres with ties to the CBSE syllabus may have influenced the inclusion of out-of-syllabus questions, as these questions align with the CBSE syllabus, and many prestigious coaching centres cater to CBSE background students.

Meanwhile, the Davanagere District Private Unaided PU Colleges' Management Association said that the issue at hand highlights the plight of around three and a half lakh second PUC students who have dedicated the past two years to prepare for engineering or other courses. This hurdle while writing CET exams left them directionless and anxious. "This situation not only affected the students but also left their lecturers feeling helpless and disheartened with the examination system. While the occasional mistake in a question or two is understandable and typically addressed by granting marks, the current CET exam included a staggering 53 such questions across four subjects, leading to widespread concern."

The association issued a note on Saturday stating that they have outlined several key points. Firstly, it emphasised that this is the first instance where such a high number of questions, totaling 240 marks, were unrelated to the prescribed texts. Additionally, it was deemed necessary to withhold the results until adjustments to the marks were made. The note stated, "The only viable solution, according to the resolution, is to conduct a re-examination. Our resolution also called for a breakdown of the out-of-syllabus questions by subject, highlighting eight questions in physics, 18 in chemistry, 15 in mathematics, and 12 in biology. Furthermore, we demand a thorough investigation into the responsible parties behind these errors, with punitive measures to follow and the cost of the exam to be recovered from those at fault. Finally, we urge swift action, either through a re-examination or other appropriate measures. Despite the potential delay, the organisation remains steadfast in its commitment to advocating for the students' best interests, even expressing readiness for legal action if necessary."

Students' burden: Anxiety, low self-esteem and more

Iffath Fathima
Iffath.Fathima
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Over 10,000 students were polled to uncover the prevailing mental health challenges affecting their daily lives in a recent comprehensive survey conducted by a digital platform dedicated to student mental health and suicide prevention in India. The findings of the survey shed light on the significant issues students face, highlighting the urgent need for support and resources to address these concerns.

The survey, conducted by PeakMind, a counselling and therapy digital portal exclusively dedicated to aiding and assisting students in navigating the challenges they face in the academic and personal spheres from January to March 2024, aimed to identify key stressors and struggles experienced by students across various demographics. The results paint a concerning picture of the mental health challenges prevalent among today's youth.

Among the most alarming findings, a staggering 41 per cent of respondents disclosed experiencing sleep disturbances, such as difficulty sleeping or excessive sleeping. This indicates a widespread disruption in their sleep patterns, with potential implications for their overall health and well-being. Furthermore, 35 per cent of students admitted to feeling poorly about themselves, underscoring the prevalence of self-esteem issues within the student demographic.

Moreover, approximately 32 per cent of respondents were reported to have been experiencing excessive worrying on a daily basis, suggesting heightened levels of anxiety and stress within the student population. Additionally, 29 per cent of students acknowledged becoming easily annoyed and irritable, potentially impacting their emotional well-being and interpersonal relationships. Furthermore, 28 per cent of the respondents expressed little interest and pleasure in doing things, indicating symptoms of depression or emotional disengagement.

Neeraj Kumar, founder and CEO of PeakMind, said, "These findings are deeply concerning and emphasise the urgent need for proactive measures to support students' mental health and well-being."

Rusty tales of the old & unwanted

After getting new cars, many forget about their old vehicles and leave them to rot

Ahna Prakash
c-ahna.prakash
@timegroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bengaluru traffic police have started a drive against unclaimed vehicles lying on Bengaluru roads for years.

A senior official in the traffic police department told Bangalore Mirror that most of these vehicles are abandoned by people who want to give up their old vehicles so they leave them on the road and aren't bothered about it for years till it turns into scrap.

"We came across vehicles which were parked on the roadside and mold was growing on them. Most of these vehicle owners are just too lazy to do something about old vehicles," said the official.

One ancient specimen lies forgotten (file photo)

Rajkumar Dugar, Founder and Convenor, Citizens For Citizens (C4C), says that he has seen old vehicles across the city lying on the road for several years. He says that these vehicles have now become a spot for illegal activities.

"The most important reason is that there is no parking available for old vehicles. People get new vehicles after a while and they keep their old car outside their home. Slowly, after some months or years they forget about it and it's not in a good condition so they are not able to sell it," he said.

He added that many people have an emotional bond with their vehicles so they don't wish to sell it or they don't get a good price in the market and hence they keep the old vehicles with themselves.

"If you leave the vehicle for long without using it, the battery goes bad and the engine starts rusting. After that the selling price of the vehicle is also not good, so people just leave it outside," he added.

He also added that after every 15 years, the car owners are supposed to re-register their vehicle, and that time the role of RTO comes into play.

"There is a need for a scrapping policy. The re-registration of the vehicle should be video recorded where it shows that officer has checked everything in the vehicle and if it can be used on the road," he said.

In a recent drive, Bengaluru North Traffic Police released a notification for more than 60 unclaimed vehicles in their jurisdiction.

Student murder: Protest & apologies

Members of the ABVP and Hindu activists on Saturday staged protests across Karnataka condemning the murder of MCA student Neha Hiremath. They also demanded capital punishment for the accused, Fayaz Kondikoppa.

High drama prevailed at the residence of Home Minister, Dr G Parameshwara when members of ABVP tried to lay siege to the house. The protestors burnt the photos of accused Fayaz. The police detained the members for staging a protest without permission and took them from the spot.

Meanwhile, the mother of the accused Fayaz apologised to the parents of the victim and said that her son should be punished. The apology came on a day when Parameshwara also apologised for his "in love" remark in the case.

Parameshwara stated on Saturday that if his statements regarding the case had hurt the feelings of Neha's parents he would regret issuing the statements. Fayaz's mother Mumtaz said on Saturday, "What my son did is a crime. Neha and Fayaz were in love and it was Neha who proposed to Fayaz. When Fayaz told me about it I had asked him not to continue the relationship.

"My son should be punished severely. Neha was a good girl. I apologise to their family."

Reacting to this, Geetha, mother of Neha said, "Ask them to bring back my daughter. I am waiting for my daughter. The accused should be punished, he should be hanged.

"We know our daughter. There was no relationship between the two. We always spent time together, she shared everything with me." **-Agencies**

Commercial catastrophe looms at Sadashivanagar

Despite complaints and official appeals, Sadashivanagar faces growing threat of commercial encroachment of residential areas, citizens urge authorities to act fast

| Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Residents of Sadashivanagar are worried about the unhindered commercialisation of residential buildings in the area. They said that if the ongoing commercialisation of residential buildings is any indication, Sadashivanagar might go the Koramangala or Indiranagar way where residents are struggling to take out their vehicles or have a sound sleep at night due to the commercialisation of residential buildings.

It is not that the Sadashivanagar Residents Welfare Association (SRWA) did nothing to inform or alert the authorities concerned. The SRWA filed a writ petition way back in 2006 and followed up with many appeals to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) regarding the commercialisation of residential dwellings, but things seem to have only gotten worse.

The residents said that ongoing commercialisation has disappointed them despite many ministers residing in the area, especially DK Shivakumar, who heads the BBMP and should be cognisant of the issues in the area; rules are flouted right under his nose. They said the most recent development is that of a jewellery store of a reputed brand opening up on 4th Main Road, a purely residential street. The SRWA wrote letters to the BBMP Chief Commissioner and others about it.

The BBMP Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) issued notices on December 5 and 13, 2023, to the owner of the building on 4th Main to stop the renovation work. The renovation of the building is for allegedly opening a jewellry shop but the work is in progress.

Renovation of the jewellery store in a residential street

"There are illegal offices mushrooming even in areas marked for residences that are adding to parking problems – Santhosh Bhatt, resident of Sadashivanagar

The BBMP AEE has also written letters to Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited (BESCOM) on December 4 and 13, 2023, to disconnect the electricity supply to the building but the renovation work is in progress and it is alleged that the BESCOM did not disconnect the electricity to the building. He also wrote a letter to the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) on December 5, 2023, to disconnect the underground drainage (UGD) facility for the building but the renovation work continues without any problem.

Santhosh Bhatt, a resident, laments that he has been residing in Sadashivanagar for over four decades and has seen it transform from a quiet and peaceful neighbourhood to a bustling commercial area now. "There are illegal offices mushrooming even in areas marked for residences that are adding to parking problems, outsiders coming into the locality to work in these offices and causing a nuisance to women and senior citizens. The jewellery store if it opens on the 4th Main Road will lead to many more such commercial establishments setting up gradually. We do not want our locality to turn into another Koramangala or Indiranagar and request the concerned authorities to check this menace of illegal commercialisation," he said.

Meanwhile, SRWA Secretary Vishal Makhija said that the SRWA has always stood for the interests of its residents and it has been fighting commercialisation since 2006 and has been able to contain it to a certain extent.

"However, of late, there have been blatant violations and we do see a lot of commercial activity resulting in other incidental issues such as parking, accidents, thefts, etc. The SRWA is making every effort to contain commercial activity in the area and we request all concerned authorities to help us retain the peace and greenery of a residential neighbourhood," he said.

Infectious diseases confronting state's healthcare system

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

witnessed a substantial rise from 3,093 cases in the last week of March to a staggering 36,814 cases this year. These figures underscore the imperative of targeted interventions and public health campaigns to curb the spread of infectious diarrhoeal illnesses and promote hygiene practices. The report highlighted that dog bites and snake bites registered alarming increases, with dog bites soaring from 3,093 cases in the last week of March to 36,814 cases this year, while snake bite cases surged from 177 cases with two deaths to 1,566 cases with ten deaths. These trends highlight the pressing need for comprehensive animal bite prevention programmes, effective emergency response systems, and accessible healthcare services to manage venomous snake bites promptly.

Among zoonotic diseases, leptospirosis and Kyasanur forest disease have exhibited concerning trends, with leptospirosis cases rising from 25 positives in the last week of March to 276 cases this year and Kyasanur forest disease cases escalating from 23 positives to 266 cases during the same period. These zoonotic diseases emphasise the importance of wildlife disease surveillance, vaccination campaigns, and community awareness initiatives to mitigate zoonotic disease risks.

Moreover, vector-borne diseases like dengue and Chikungunya have seen substantial spikes, with dengue cases soaring from 310 positives in the last week of March to 2,116 cases this year, and Chikungunya cases

increasing from 73 positives to 464 cases. The emergence of malaria cases, Japanese encephalitis, diphtheria, and measles further underscores the complex landscape of infectious diseases confronting healthcare systems in Karnataka, the report added.

Notably, amidst these health challenges, the ongoing covid-19 pandemic continues to pose significant threats, with 82 positive cases reported in the last week of March and 5,968 cases recorded in the first quarter of this year alone. The persistent presence of covid-19 underscores the need for sustained public health measures, vaccination drives, and vigilant surveillance to combat the pandemic's impact and prevent resurgence.

"The array of diseases and their escalating trends necessitate a multifaceted approach encompassing robust surveillance, targeted interventions, community engagement, and resource allocation to safeguard public health and mitigate the burden of infectious diseases in Karnataka," said an official.

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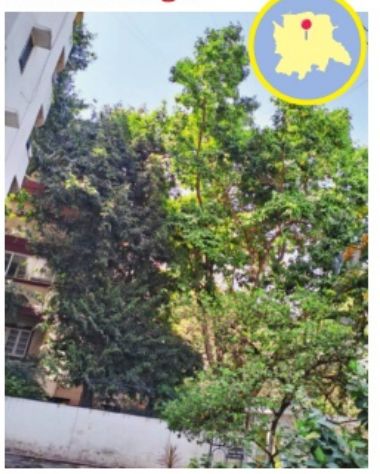
Pulikeshi Nagar



The trees near an apartment building on Promenade Road pose a risk of falling, necessitating immediate inspection and maintenance.

Leafy loft
RMV Extension

Dry leaves accumulated on roads in RMV 2nd Stage are causing health hazards and potential accidents, urging authorities for timely clearance.

Burning waste
Yelahanka

Garbage burning near Thirumenahalli Lake Road is encroaching on footpaths and causing environmental concerns.

Advertorial Promotional Feature

‘There is no age limit for bariatric surgery’

Dr. G. Moinoddin, Consultant – Bariatric & Advanced Laparoscopic Surgery, Manipal Hospital Millers Road

Obesity stands as a widely discussed health issue, prompting significant attention and concern globally. Dr. G. Moinoddin, Consultant - Bariatric and Advanced Laparoscopic Surgeon at Manipal Hospital, Millers Road, shared insights on obesity-related queries during a recent phone-in session with BM readers. Here are some key takeaways:

■ What is the difference between bariatric surgery and liposuction?

Gastric bypass and other types of weight-loss surgery, which are called bariatric or metabolic surgery, involve procedures that make changes to the patient’s digestive system that aid weight reduction. A certain procedure limits how much one can eat while also reducing the body’s ability to absorb calories and fat. On the other hand, liposuction can be considered a cosmetic surgery. It uses suction to remove fat from particular sections of the body, such as the abdomen, in order to shape and contour them. While the result is immediate, there is no guarantee that the body will remain the same and not revert to an unfavourable state.

■ What must a patient who has opted for bariatric surgery expect prior to the procedure?

After all the required medical assessments are carried out, the patient will be admitted to the hospital a day prior to the procedure. The procedure only takes one to two hours to be completed, and the patient will be able to walk in the next two hours and will be discharged on the upcoming day. Individuals with severe medical issues may need hospitalization two days prior to the procedure for monitoring.

■ What is a routine one must follow to ensure that they do not become obese?

Due to their sedentary lifestyle, people are at greater risk of developing obesity. It is paramount to adopt lifestyle modifications to ensure they do not become obese. There is a general misconception that physical workouts are the most important aspect of ensuring a healthy weight. However, maintaining a healthy weight depends 80 per cent on the kind of diet an individual consumes, while the remaining 20 per cent depends on the physical activities carried out by them. It is advised for one to consume 1,500–2,000 calories a day. Individuals must stay conscious and put in a consistent effort to control excessive portion intake. Along with this, they must ensure that they clock in 150 minutes of physical exercise per week, which amounts to 25 minutes per day. This is definitely doable and ensures good heart health. It is to be noted that vigorous physical activity, such as brisk walking or being on the treadmill, must be done to ensure the burning of fat.

■ How has social media impacted awareness of obesity?

For better or for worse, the introduction of social media has definitely impacted how one looks at obesity. While many, especially young girls, have become conscious even about their healthy weights, there are many who have become aware of the deadly consequences of being obese, making them resort to seeking medical intervention. Social media has impacted different individuals in various ways, depending on their own perspective.

■ Do individuals who consume meat have any restrictions on their dietary practices?

For those who consume red meat, it is advised to avoid doing so, as there are numerous studies linking the consumption of red meat to the formation of various cancers. Chicken, on the other hand, is now mostly farmed by inducing steroids, making mutton the safest option among popular meats for consumption by meat eaters. Seafood, without a doubt, must be the go-to for meat eaters, as it is the healthiest option of meat available. Other dietary practices that even vegetarians can take into account are as follows: Ghee is not advisable for consumption. Since coconut oil contains a hefty amount of saturated fats, it is advised to avoid the same. It is best to use two to three different oils instead of sticking to an oil that has a significant amount of saturated fats. One must note that the consumption of oil on a daily basis must be limited to five to seven tablespoons only. Since alcohol contains high calories and also results in other complications such as gastritis and ulcers, it is best advised to stick to social drinking.

■ What are the requirements for one to qualify for bariatric surgery?

There is no age limit for one to seek bariatric surgery. Women who are hoping to get pregnant, children with obesity, and those in old age suffering from blood pressure and sugar issues opt to go for the surgery too. There are cases of obese individuals opting to get the surgery done prior to getting married. It is suggested for those who are 30 kg more than the prescribed weight for their height. The BMI (body mass index) scale of a person should be a minimum of 32.5 in measure. The BMI is a convenient rule of thumb used to broadly categorize a person based on tissue mass (muscle, fat, and bone) and height. A count of more than 30 is considered obese. For example, if an individual measures 170 cm in height, they must weigh 70 kg. If they weigh more than 100 kg, the person is considered obese and must undergo surgery to avoid severe complications in the future.

■ What can the patient who has undergone the surgery expect the post-procedure care to be like?

When do the results begin to show?The patient can expect to see significant results post six to eight months of surgery. I have patients who weighed 235 kg prior to the surgery, reducing to 110 kg. We provide all the required assistance, such as dieticians who devise a suitable plan based on individuals’ needs. It is to be noted that the patient factor is also involved in how impactful the surgery is going to be. On the other hand, we have many social groups where prior patients who have been operated on provide the moral support and advice required to motivate newer patients. For diabetes patients, in 90 to80 per cent of cases, the tablets are entirely stopped as a result. There is only a mere 0.5–2 per cent chance of side effects arising. It is very important for patients to choose a hospital and doctor who follow all the necessary protocols.

■ What does the procedure involve?

There are over 38 types of bariatric surgeries that are performed across the world, depending on the ethnicity of the patient. We follow two types. The first one is the sleeve gastrectomy, where a large portion of the stomach is removed along the greater curvature, which leaves a cylindrical or sleeve-shaped stomach like the size of a banana.

In this procedure, weight loss is affected not only through the reduction of the organ’s size but also by the removal of the portion of it that produces ghrelin, the hormone that stimulates appetite. It is commonly performed laparoscopically, but it can also be performed robotically. The procedure is irreversible. Only in uncommon cases does the patient regain their weight for reasons such as reverting to poor dietary habits.

The other type is gastric bypass surgery, a technique in which the stomach is divided into a small upper pouch and a much larger lower remnant pouch. The small intestine is then rearranged to connect to both. This procedure also leads to a reduction in the functional volume of the stomach along with an altered physiological and physical response to food on the whole.

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Club clash continues as nobody ready to blink

Domlur Club's saga of bickering at top goes on as members worry about loss of face

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Domlur Club, one of the prestigious clubs in the city, continues to make headlines for all the wrong reasons. The tussle among the members of Domlur Club's managing committee has become a cause of concern for the members as it affects the club's image. Lodging complaints and counter complaints by the managing committee members has become a routine affair.

The latest tussle is between the general secretary and the vice president. General secretary R Gopi has issued an order suspending the vice president on April 15, 2024, stating that the latter has been suspended by the managing committee in its meeting held on April 12 for his vacation of office without intimation of 9 consecutive meetings of the Managing Committee as per the Rule 23 (11).

"Further the Managing Committee in the same meeting has hereby suspended you forthwith from the membership of the club for your acts detrimental to the interest of the Club under Rule 22(A) of the byelaw," Gopi said in the suspension order.

The acts of vice president that they said were detrimental to the Domlur Club are: Appointment of staff to the guest rooms without informing it to the Secretary or to the Managing Committee for more than two months, issuing a letter to the District Registrar of Cooperative Societies and to the Registrar of Cooperative Societies to conduct an enquiry against the previous Managing Committee for embezzlement of funds without informing neither the Managing Committee and nor conducting an internal enquiry, filing a writ petition in High Court for stalling the special general meeting (SGM) dated March 3, 2024, and lodging a complaint against the Club before the Election Commissioner and District Registrar to stall the SGM dated on April 14, 2024.

"An enquiry officer will be appointed as soon as possible under intimation to you and until such time the enquiry report is received, you are placed under suspension pending enquiry, till such time you and your family members cannot utilise the facilities of the Club," Gopi said in the suspension order.

M Somasekhar, vice president of Domlur Club, said that he could not attend meetings as he received no intimation about the meetings of the managing committee being held. "I did no wrong against Domlur Club. The suspension order issued by the general secretary is against the norms," said Somasekhar.

The president and vice president of Domlur Club have complained to the District Registrar of Cooperative Societies against the misuse of funds and non-compliance of norms two months ago.

The District Registrar of Cooperative Societies has issued an order on April 8, 2024 appointing BV Gangadhar, deputy registrar of cooperative societies as an inquiry officer based on a complaint by Giriraj, president of Domlur Club, V Saravana, Muniyappa, and M Nagendra.

> **An enquiry officer will be appointed as soon as possible under intimation to you and until such time the enquiry report is received, you are placed under suspension pending enquiry**
>
> – From the suspension order

Criticising the suspension of the vice president, a member on the condition of anonymity, said that the managing committee cannot suspend the vice president while the enquiry is pending. The enquiry was ordered on April 8 and it is yet to be completed but the managing committee suspended the vice president on April 12 much before the commencement of the enquiry.

Prior to this, a first information report (FIR) was registered at Indiranagar Police Station on March 1, 2024 against Gopi R, Babureddy, and Renuka Prasad based on a complaint lodged by Chandrasekhar M under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Ordinance 2014 and under the Sections of 506, 34, and 504 of the Indian Penal Code 1860.

When contacted, Gopi said that the complaints lodged by the president, vice president, and others are false. "I did no wrong. I followed the norms of the Club while taking decisions," said Gopi.

Naveen S, Treasurer of Domlur Club, also said that the allegations are false.

'Will do all I can to play in T20 World Cup'

Ahead of his side's clash against Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) in the Indian Premier League (IPL), Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) wicketkeeper-batter Dinesh Karthik said that it would be the "greatest feeling" for him to represent India at this point in his career and he will do all he can to earn a spot for the ICC T20 World Cup this year, starting from June 1 in the West Indies/USA.

RCB and KKR will be locking horns at Eden Gardens on Sunday. While KKR is in fine form and in the second spot with four wins and two losses, giving them eight points, RCB is struggling to win even a game. They have won just one game so far and lost the other six, which has relegated them to the last spot in the points tally with just two points.

Ahead of the game, Karthik said during the pre-match press conference that there is nothing bigger for him to play for India and that there are three very stable and honest people in head coach Rahul Dravid, skipper Rohit Sharma and chief selector Ajit Agarkar to decide on the best team for the tournament. He said that he is 100 per cent ready for the competition.

"At this stage in my life, it would be the greatest feeling for me to represent India (at the upcoming T-20 World Cup). I am very, very keen to do so. There is nothing bigger in my life other than representing India in this T-20 World Cup. I also feel there are three very, very stable, honest people who are at their helm to decide what should be the best Indian team for the World Cup. Rahul Dravid, Rohit Sharma, and Ajit Agarkar. And I am completely with them. I respect any decision that they make. But all I can say is I am 100 percent ready. And you know I'll do everything I can to be on that flight to the World Cup." **–ANI**

Perfume warehouse fire: NGT notice to govt agencies

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

The principal bench of National Green Tribunal (NGT) has sent notices to various government agencies after a major fire broke out at a perfume warehouse near Bengaluru in February, killing three persons.

The green tribunal has stated that the incident involves issue relating to compliance with the environmental norms and thus has sent notices to the Member Secretary of the Central Pollution Control Board and Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Director of Factories, Boilers, Industrial Safety and Health, Bengaluru and Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate, Bengaluru.

"The cause of the fire is yet to be ascertained but as per the disclosure, inflammable materials were stocked in the building which lacked adequate safety measures. An old house was converted into a perfume warehouse and three employees who were inside the warehouse at the time of the incident had died as they could not find a way out and smoke surrounded them," noted the order passed by the green tribunal recently.

In the accident at the illegal perfume unit in Ramasamudram located on the western outskirts of the city, three persons were charred to death and five were injured. Among the dead was a father-son duo, who received severe burn injuries in the accident, and the third casualty was the owner of the warehouse. The rest of the victims were workers at the facility.

Several vehicles were also reported gutted along with the facility before fire tenders arrived at the scene and controlled the raging fire.

After the principal bench of NGT registered a suo moto case and issued notices, while CPCB, Director of Factories, Boilers, Industrial Safety and Health, Bengaluru, and Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate, Bengaluru, have sought time to file their responses, the tribunal has ordered another notice to be issued to KSPCB to file a response as early as possible.

The case has been transferred to the southern zonal bench, Chennai for appropriate further action.

Three people died in the fire at the perfume storage unit in Ramasandra Sulekere, Kumbalgodu police limits on Sunday

Go out & vote!

College students in the city organised a 'Vote-a-thon' to raise awareness about the importance of exercising one's right to vote

PIC: KAUSHIK JN

Forces within & outside country joined hands to defeat me: Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said that "big and powerful people" from within India and outside the country have united to defeat him in the Lok Sabha elections.

Addressing a massive gathering in Karnataka's Chikkaballapur city, Modi said that the first phase of voting has uplifted the spirit of the people in the country.

"With the blessings of 'Nari Shakti' and 'Matru Shakti', Modi is successfully facing the challenges and marching ahead. The INDIA bloc does not have a leader for the future, and also does not have a vision for the future as well," Modi said.

"The highest number of beneficiaries of Modi government's schemes are SC, ST and OBC families. During the tenure of the earlier governments, they lived in filth, did not get electricity and water, and they had lost hope from the government. Modi has rekindled their hopes on the government. The fact that 25 crore people are being lifted out of poverty in the country substantiates the fact," he said.

PM Modi, speaking at the rally, also said that those who were earlier called at last are being placed on the frontline today.

"A daughter from a tribal family went on to become the first citizen of the country," Modi said, adding: "Under the development for all objectives, the NDA government has prioritised the education of Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), Other Backward Classes (OBC) and youth.

"These sections are beneficiaries of the Mudra Scheme which provides loans. It is being planned to increase the loan amount from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 20 lakh," the PM said.

He said that the Congress government has betrayed the farmers by stopping the Rs 4 crore subsidy given by the state government during the previous BJP government in Karnataka. "I am sure you will punish the anti-farmer Congress government," he said.

Supporters cheer for Prime Minister Narendra Modi at an election rally at Palace Grounds on Saturday

The Prime Minister further said, "The poor people of this country did not think that they would get free ration. This has been turned into reality. Lakhs of families are availing of free treatment. In Chikkaballapur, 4 lakh families have benefitted from this. Free treatment would be given to senior citizens who are above the age of 70 years, up to Rs 5 lakh.

"In the last 10 years, in Chikkaballapur and Kolar, 25,000 houses have been built. Three crore more houses will be built."

Modi also said that the Nandi Hills, located close to Bengaluru, will be developed as a weekend getaway.

"The NDA gets inspiration from Nadaprabhu Kempe Gowda (founder of Bengaluru) to develop modern infrastructure," Modi added. —IANS

Modi govt facing strong anti-incumbency, claims CM Siddaramaiah

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday claimed that there is a strong anti-incumbency against the Narendra Modi government.

Calling the JD(S) a "communal party", for having an alliance with BJP in Karnataka, he suggested it is better for its leadership to dissolve the outfit.

"This time, whether it is in Karnataka or in the country, there is no Modi wave. BJP candidates are seeking votes in the name of Modi, they are dependent on Modi. There is a strong anti-incumbency against the Modi government," Siddaramiah said.

Speaking to reporters, he said, that as there is no Modi wave, there is an atmosphere in favour of the Congress and INDIA bloc across the country.

Defending Congress' sarcasm-laced campaign alleging that the Modi government's gift to Karnataka was empty 'Chombu' (Kannada word for a round water pot), Siddaramaiah asked, "Did they give Rs 15 lakh to every account holder as promised? Did he create 2 crore jobs a year? Did he double farmers' income? Did good days come?"

Modi has not fulfilled even a single assurance he had given, he said. "So Modi has given the people of the state and the country an empty 'Chombu.' Let them (BJP) say anything, our (state's) coffers are not empty, we (Congress govt) have implemented five guarantee schemes, and we have continued the developmental works." Alleging that JD(S) leader HD Kumaraswamy has become "communal" after joining hands with the BJP, the CM claimed JD(S) is no longer a secular party.

"The JD(S) is a communal party. Since they are having an alliance with BJP in Karnataka, it is better they dissolve JD(S)," he said, adding, that as BJP and JD(S) fear losing the elections they have formed an alliance to fight Congress, which is fighting independently. —PTI

FIR registered against DK Shivakumar for poll code violation: EC

An FIR has been lodged against Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar for allegedly violating the Model Code of Conduct by promising water supply in exchange for votes to residents of a housing society. The BJP brought the matter to the Election Commission's attention after a video circulated on social media showing Shivakumar seeking votes from residents in Bengaluru Rural Lok Sabha segment.

The FIR, filed by the Flying Squad Teams (FST) of Bengaluru, accuses Shivakumar of violating the MCC during his address to apartment owners in RR Nagar. Registered at the RMC Yard police station, the FIR cites appropriate sections of the Indian Penal Code for bribery and undue influence in elections.

In the video, Shivakumar described his visit as a "business deal" and pledged to resolve issues like Cauvery River water supply and civic amenity site concerns within three months if the 2,510 houses in the society, amounting to 6,424 votes, supported his candidate.

Shivakumar's brother, DK Suresh, is contesting for re-election from Bangalore Rural in the Lok Sabha elections. —PTI

KPCC files complaint against BY Vijayendra

The Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) filed a complaint with the Election Commission against BJP State President BY Vijayendra for his remarks on the Siddaramaiah-led government's guarantee schemes.

Allegedly, Vijayendra criticised the five guarantees - Gruhajyothi, Gruhalakshmi, Yuvanidhi, Shakti Yojana, and Annabhagya - during election rallies in Mandya and Chikkaballapura.

"The statement of BY Vijayendra is in violation of the Model Code of Conduct, the provisions of the Representation of the People Act 1951, and the provisions of the Indian Penal Code," it claimed.

Additionally, KPCC accused Vijayendra of threatening Karnataka voters, particularly in Mandya and Chikkaballapura, to sway support for BJP and JDS candidates.

The party asserted that Vijayendra's statements violated the Model Code of Conduct, the Representation of the People Act 1951, and the Indian Penal Code. KPCC urged the Election Commission to take action by registering a criminal case against Vijayendra to ensure the fairness of elections in Karnataka. —PTI

2024 Parliament Election

Vision for better Bengaluru

Congress candidate Mansoor Ali Khan for Bengaluru Central parliamentary seat revealed his development vision through a dedicated manifesto. Advocating for decentralisation of urban functions, Khan aims to enhance local governance efficiency and urban development in Bangalore.

His plan entails amending Section 74 to ensure timely corporation elections and equitable resource allocation based on State Finance Commission guidelines.

The manifesto emphasises statutory planning for inclusive and sustainable metropolitan spatial planning via the Metropolitan Planning Commission. Khan proposes decentralising industries through satellite cities to stimulate economic growth.

Additionally, he prioritises fostering a supportive ecosystem for startups by implementing policies, providing seed capital, and promoting entrepreneurship, especially among vulnerable groups. Khan also emphasises securing women's rights and safety as a crucial aspect of his manifesto.

—Prakash VL

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BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

FUN UNDER THE SUN

Two rose-ringed parakeets perched on a dried tree at Doddakallasandra Lake, enjoying a sunny morning.

The picture was clicked by reader **Venkatalakshmi Sridhar**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

New parking system in Central Business District

BBMP faces backlash after smart parking failure in CBD, reverts to traditional paid parking

| Melvin Mathew
c-melvin.mathew
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

After the failure of smart parking in the Central Business District (CBD), paid parking has been rolled back. However, Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) officials were not unaware of this new development. The CBD, comprising major areas like MG Road, Church Street, Lavelle Road, and Brigade Road, sees lakhs of people visiting the area. Without adequate parking services, the area can easily become chaotic. For many months now, the smart parking system run by the Central Parking System (CPS) has been non-operational. Now, a new system has taken over.

After six years of smart parking in the CBD area, paid parking has been launched in the old-fashioned way. Parking space operators are individually booking tickets for a limited period at Rs 15 per hour for two-wheelers and Rs 30 per hour for four-wheelers. The services are being operated under the name of 'BBMP Pay and Park.' The tickets issued also bear the tag of 'BBMP Pay and Park.'

However, BBMP officials seem to be unaware of the situation. The engineering department of BBMP East and the TEC department denied giving any authorisation. "We haven't given any authorisation for parking in CBD apart from the CPS in 2018. The zonal division could have issued an authorisation," said a senior BBMP official from TEC.

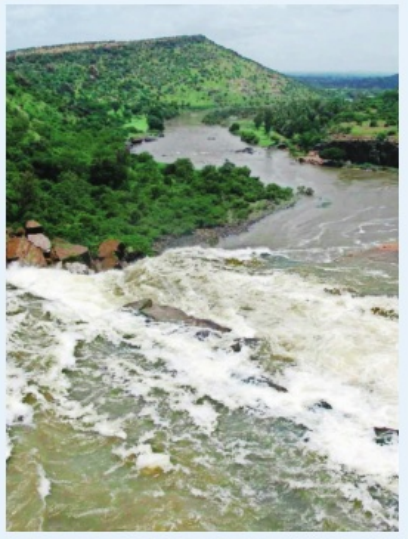
However, when BM contacted the zonal East division, officials were not aware of any authorisation. Officials did not give any confirmation of providing permission for parking until the story was printed.

According to BBMP officials, the smart parking system was halted due to contractors not paying dues to BBMP. "We had issued the contract to Central Parking System for running on eight roads. However, for the past 1.5 years, they haven't paid any dues. Estimated, the contractor owes 6-7 lakh per month. The contractor has claimed that the parking system is not yielding him any revenue. We haven't cancelled the contract as the contractor made a partial payment of Rs 35 lakh," he added.

"We had a perfectly working parking system that ran for 20 years. A coin had to be inserted for parking and it was limited to two hours. At the end, a bill was issued to make the payments. Under the aegis of the association, we imported machines from France at the cost of Rs 45 lakhs and installed and ran them at our cost. We were also profitable and were willing to share the profits with BBMP on a 50-50 revenue-sharing basis. We were giving the Palike an estimated Rs 35 lakh annually. The association had taken the step to install the parking meters in a bid to address the parking issues in CBD," said Suhail Yusuf, Secretary of Brigade Road Shops and Establishment Association.

Smart parking on MG Road

DID YOU KNOW?



Located in Karnataka, the district of Vijayapura, commonly referred to as Bijapur, boasts a unique geographical feature: the convergence of five rivers. These rivers, including the tributaries of Krishna, Doni, Bhima, Ghataprabha, and Malaprabha, bestow upon Vijayapura the moniker of the 'Five Rivers Land.' This natural abundance not only enriches the region's landscape but also sustains its agricultural activities and supports the livelihoods of its residents. Such a confluence of water bodies renders Vijayapura not just a geographical marvel but also a symbol of prosperity and vitality.

GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

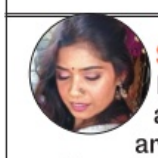
TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

How has the city's resilience and adaptability during challenging times reinforced your admiration for it?

Vinay, BM Reader
Bengaluru's resilience during challenging times, especially in adapting to shifts in the landscape, showcases its ability to navigate change. The city's adaptability reinforces its reputation as a forward-thinking urban centre.

Vinod, BM Reader
The city has demonstrated its ability to not just bounce back from difficult situations, but to bounce forward. This was evident during the Covid-19 pandemic, where the city showed resilience in the face of adversity.



Sowjanya, BM Reader
Bengaluru may have an expensive and costly lifestyle, but it also has areas that are conducive to a more affordable and relaxed way of life. This diversity makes me admire the city even more, as it teaches us to adapt to any situation.

Gajendra, BM Reader
The city has shown great resilience and adaptability during the pandemic. The city's healthcare system has been able to manage the pandemic effectively, and the city's residents have shown great discipline.

Ravish, BM Reader
The city has shown remarkable resilience in the face of these challenges. The traffic department is also planning to implement an Adaptive Traffic Controlling System over the next 3 years.

Ramaswamy, BM Reader
The city has taken several initiatives to support the vulnerable sections, such as providing free meals and rations to those in need. These instances have reinforced my admiration for Bengaluru.

SPEAK TO US

Are there specific neighbourhoods or areas in Bengaluru that you believe define its uniqueness and excellence?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

Bot op
Some people are running huge bot operations on X, which is reducing the content quality, Elon Musk said

HACKS TO DEAL WITH HACKERS

AI is making smart devices easier to hack. Here's how to stay safe

From asking our smart speakers for the weather to receiving personalised advice from smartwatches, devices powered by artificial intelligence (AI) are increasingly streamlining our routines and decision making. The technology is seeping into our lives in subtle ways.

Manufacturers gather vast amounts of user data to ensure these smart devices are responsive and personalised. But this can put users at risk of exploitation by malicious agents, such as hackers looking to steal your data.

As AI becomes more ubiquitous, consumers will also need to become savvier. If you want to enjoy the benefits of a smart everyday device, you should be aware of the safeguards needed to protect you from cyberattacks.

Once we started connecting physical everyday devices like fridges, vacuum cleaners and doorbell cameras to the internet, the Internet of Things (IoT) was born. It is now estimated there are some 17 billion IoT devices worldwide.

IoT devices that existed before AI generally have simpler, more static functionalities, resulting in lower data privacy and security risks. These devices could connect to the internet and perform specific tasks they were programmed to do, such as remotely turning off lights or setting a thermostat.

However, they couldn't learn from user interactions or adapt their functionalities over time. Manufacturers integrate AI into IoT devices to help them "understand" and better cater to user needs and behaviours.

For example, a smart speaker might gather behavioural information by listening to conversations in its environment. This helps it to better understand user preferences and commands, adapt its responses and offer more relevant content or suggestions. Ultimately, this enhances the experience – it makes the device more useful to you.

However, it also makes it less secure. With AI now embedded into such devices, it actually opens a new collection of pathways (known as an "attack surface") for cybercriminals. For example, hackers can use inputs that deliberately cause the AI in the device to malfunction. They can also "poison" the training data of AI models to make them behave in specific ways.

Manufacturers should provide detailed guidelines on how the collected data is processed, stored and protected. They should also explain any measures to prevent unauthorised access or data breaches

In addition, a malicious attacker can obtain the AI training data through a model inversion attack. If an AI model has been trained on private or sensitive data, replicating this model could potentially expose information that should remain confidential.

A doorbell device with blue and white lights glowing on it, indicating a camera is activated.

A 'smart' doorbell camera can not just alert you when someone's on your porch, but potentially use image recognition to tell you exactly who they are.

IoT devices have long been vulnerable to hackers due to lack of passwords, lack of encryption or outdated software. With this in mind, smart device manufacturers that prioritise security will implement strong encryption, provide regular software updates and ensure secure data management and transport.

However, users often aren't aware of just how vulnerable their devices might be, or what kind of data they gather and where it goes.

There is a pressing need for industry standards that ensure all devices meet a minimum-security threshold before they come to market.

Manufacturers should provide detailed guidelines on how the collected data is processed, stored and protected. They should also explain any measures to prevent unauthorised access or data breaches.

Governments and industry have recognised the risks and invisible threats posed by AI. We have already seen the significant negative consequences when this is exploited. That is why laws on AI regulation are being drafted and implemented in Australia and around the world.

In the meantime, consumers must remain vigilant and take proactive measures – to ensure their digital lives bring about more benefit than harm.

How can I protect my devices from cyberattacks?

For a start, review all the devices in your home that connect to the internet. Try to identify AI-powered features, such as learning user behaviours or processing large datasets. These are common in smart speakers, home security systems and advanced wearable technology.

Secondly, explore the functionality of your devices and disable irrelevant or unnecessary AI features. This simple step could prevent AI from gathering personal information and its possible exposure.

Thirdly, when you purchase a device, examine the manufacturer's security disclosure, often found on their website under titles like "Privacy", "Security" or "Product Support". It can also be found in user manuals and, sometimes, directly on the product packaging.

Make sure you understand what sort of AI technology the device uses and how data is collected, processed, stored and protected. What are the safeguards? Did the manufacturer use industry standards or subscribe to strong security guidelines like the European Union's data protection regulation, GDPR?

Security disclosures can vary greatly in terms of clarity. Technical details can be difficult to understand, but information from the Australian government's Consumer Data Right guidelines can help guide your decision.

Asking these questions will help with the selection of devices. Sometimes it is best to pick a manufacturer with a strong track record on security, rather than be swayed by price point alone.

Finally, always keep your IoT devices up to date: when your device requests to install an update, do this promptly. This ensures any security loopholes identified by the manufacturer are properly implemented, closing the opportunity for cyberattacks.

These good habits will go a long way to ensuring your privacy is safeguarded.

(By Chao Chen, Kok-Leong Ong and Lin Li from RMIT University, The Conversation)

BITS & BYTES

MUSK POSTPONES VISIT

Tech billionaire Elon Musk announced Saturday he was postponing his visit to India, during which the Tesla boss was meant to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi and discuss big investment plans. The news came a day after Musk's electric car company announced the recall of nearly 4,000 Cybertruck vehicles owing to an acceleration pedal defect that increased crash risks.

"Unfortunately, very heavy Tesla obligations require that the visit to India be delayed, but I do very much look forward to visiting later this year," he said in a post on his social media platform X. **AFP**

APPS OFF IN CHINA

Apple has removed WhatsApp and Threads from its app store in China after the country's internet watchdog issued orders, citing national security concerns, CNN reported.

An Apple spokesperson said that the Cyberspace Administration of China ordered the removal of these apps from China. "We are obligated to follow the laws in the countries where we operate, even when we disagree," an Apple spokesperson told CNN. "The Cyberspace Administration of China ordered the removal of these apps from the China storefront based on their national security concerns," they added. **ANI**

AVATAR HERE

Researchers at Microsoft have revealed a new artificial tool that can create deeply realistic human avatars -- but offered no timetable to make it available to the public, citing concerns about facilitating deep fake content.

The AI model known as VASA-1, for "visual affective skills," can create an animated video of a person talking, with synchronized lip movements, using just a single image and a speech audio clip.

Researchers fear rampant misuse of AI-powered applications to create "deep fake" content in an election year. "We are opposed to any behavior to create misleading contents of real persons," wrote the authors of the VASA-1 report. **AFP**

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'This model is pushing transport corps towards privatisation'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

operations, and will be unable to ensure quality and undisrupted service. All the ills of privatisation will follow," she said.

Furthermore Shasa noted that the FAME scheme has been devised to promote the EV industry and is not an urban mobility scheme. "There is an overlap, but it's not the same. So, a lack of understanding and attention to urban mobility needs and ecosystem is visible in the scheme design. Urban mobility would need to focus on reducing private vehicles as the primary goal. EVs will only reduce pollution to some extent without reducing congestion and without addressing equitable mobility needs," she substantiated.

"EV technology is still evolving. Therefore, at what pace should we move the bus fleet to electric and what percentage of fleet should be electric are also questions we should assess and answer. Fleet expansion should be based on what is suitable for the STU and appropriate for the technology, and not the needs of the scheme and the industry to develop the market," she explained.

She noted that the central scheme pushing a model down the throat of states and cities without giving them the freedom to choose the operating model is a violation of the principle of federalism and subsidiarity. "Cities

and STUs will know best what operating model suits them. There should be democratic ways of deliberating and deciding on this at the city and state level. The central scheme pushing the lease model down the STUs is taking away this freedom and right of the STUs, the city and the people," she concluded.

The Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) last year received the first set of non-AC electric buses from Tata Motors.

In August 2022, Tata Motors had won an order of 921 electric buses from BMTC. Under the tender by Convergence Energy Services Ltd. (CESL), Tata Motors will supply, operate, and maintain the 12-metre electric buses for a period of 12 years, as per the contract.

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9663871771/9620464800

Email: Lcis.rrnagar@gmail.com

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personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Gagan Surya Sekhara Reddy Tippa Reddy residing at 45, 1st Cross, Raghava Kalyana Colony, Batri Road, Bellary Cantonment, Ballari – 583104 Karnataka have changed my name to Gagan S vide affidavit dated 20.4.2024 sworn before Notary N Mahesha Bangalore

I, Ranganathan Balasubramanian Lalgudi R/o 005, Royal Castle, Off Old Airport Road, Behind Leela Palace, Kodihalli, Bangalore 560008 Have Changed My Name As Balasubramanian Ranganathan

I, Radhika Tandle residing at No.B-106, Aloha Apartment, HMT Watch Factory Road, Municipal No-26, Jalahalli, B'lore -560013 have changed my name to Sulakhe Radhika vide affidavit dated 19.4.2024 sworn before Notary Ambika.S B'lore

I Vimala Shamsundara Raju W/o Puttanna Raju Shyam Sundar Raju R/o No 11012 Prestige Falcon City Konana - kunte Cross Kanakapura Road Bengaluru 560062 have changed my name to Vimala Shyam for all purposes.

I, Shanaz Taj W/o Mohammed Mansoor Alam R/o No 15/4, 4th Cross Metro Layout, Nayandahalli Bangalore-560039 have changed my name to Shahnaz Taj for all purposes.

I, Anuja Arun Ahire W/O, Vineed P Menon R/o 903, Wing 10, Shriram Summitt, Ecity Phase 1 Bangalore 560100 have changed my name to Anuja Vineed Menon for all purposes.

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HEALTH TIP: With their unique omega-3 fatty acid content, walnuts offer potent anti-inflammatory effects and are beneficial for brain health

Peanuts contain antioxidants like resveratrol and vitamin E, which protect against cell damage

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When heat is on

Just cool down with these extra-special summer treats

by Executive Pastry Chef Avishek Singha, Bengaluru Marriott Hotel Whitefield

MANGO PASSION FRUIT RECIPE

INGREDIENTS

COCONUT DACQUOISE
- Egg white
- Caster sugar 62 gm
- Almond powder 20 gm
- Desiccated coconut 10 gm
- Icing sugar 40 gm

PASSION FRUIT CREMEUX
- Egg yolk 33 gm
- Whole egg 20 gm
- Castor sugar 35 gm
- Passion fruit puree 41 gm
- Butter 50 gm
- Gelatin 3 gm

MANGO JELLY
- Mango puree 125 gm
- Caster sugar 18 gm
- Liquid glucose 7 gm
- Gelatin 5 gm
- Lemon juice 3 gm

WHITE CHOCOLATE MANGO MOUSSE
- Egg yolk 43 gm
- Caster sugar 5 gm
- Milk 50 gm
- Mango puree 20 gm
- White chocolate 150 gm
- Elle & vire 150 gm
- Gelatin 7 gm

METHOD
- For coconut Dacquoise : Whisk egg white and sugar to get soft peak meringue then fold in desiccated coconut, almond powder and icing sugar in it. Sheet it on parchment paper lined in a tray and bake at 200 degree Celsius for 10 to 14 minutes.
- For passion fruit cremeux : combine egg yolk and sugar in a large heatproof bowl whisk the yolk and sugar with a balloon whisk until the mixture is lighter then slowly add the whole eggs whisk continuously till the mixture is lighter and noticeably thicker. Add in the passion fruit puree mix for some time, let it cool when little warm add in the butter mix in the end add gelatin.
- For mango jelly: take mango puree, caster sugar and liquid glucose in a sauce pan cook it till first boil comes remove from induction add lemon juice and gelatin.
- To make the white chocolate mango: mousse make anglaise with egg yolk, caster sugar and milk then pour it over chocolate and make a ganache, add the mango puree in the ganache. Then fold in Semi Whipped Cream in it and gelatin.
- Assembling: - Take a silicon mold or lined cake ring, pipe white chocolate mango mousse in it then mango jelly followed by passion fruit cremeux, now fill it with white chocolate mango mousse and put coconut dacquoise.
- Freeze it, then demold and garnish it accordingly

SUMMER MOCKTAIL RECIPE

Prep Time: 5 mins

INGREDIENTS
- Chilli Powder 60 ml
- Salt 60 ml
- Chilli 30 ml
- Ice Cube 15ml
- Pineapple Juice 90 ml
- Lime Juice 10 ml
- Glassware- Cocktail Glass

METHOD
- Start by adding salt and chilli powder to the rim of the Glass
- Fill the glass with ice cubes
- Add 90 ml of pineapple juice to it
- Mix in 2 spoons (10ml) of lime juice
- Top up the glass with Sprite and mix well.
- Garnish with a pineapple slice and a cherry.

by Head Chef Ram Bahadur Budhathoki, Chowman

FRESH MANGO TRIFLE RECIPE

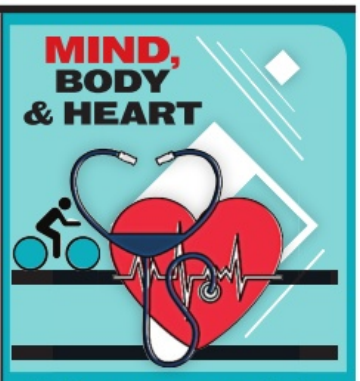
Prep Time: 15 mins Serves 2

INGREDIENTS
- Fresh Mango - 100g
- Fresh Mango Puree - 50g
- Vanilla Custard Powder - 90g
- Milk - 200ml
- Sugar - 4 tsp
- Eggless Plain Vanilla Cake - 4 slices
- Fresh Cream - 40ml
- Whipped Cream - 50ml

METHOD
- Start by making fresh mango juice. Blend half of the fresh mango with 2 teaspoons of sugar and a few teaspoons of milk until you get a thick consistency. Ensure the juice is thick to prevent the cake from becoming soggy.
- Prepare the vanilla custard but be careful and do not to overcook it; remove it from the flame when it thickens and becomes smooth. Let it cool.
- If you haven't already, slice the eggless plain vanilla cake into cubes. You can use store-bought slices or bake a cake at home.
- If you are baking the cake at home, allow the cake to cool completely.
- Once the mango juice, custard, and cake are ready, it's time to assemble the trifle. In a serving glass or bowl, start by layering the cubed vanilla cake at the bottom.
- Pour a layer of fresh mango puree over the cake cubes, ensuring it covers them evenly.
- Spoon a layer of vanilla custard over the mango puree, spreading it out gently.
- Repeat the layers until the glass or bowl is almost full, alternating between cake cubes, mango puree, and custard.
- Finish by topping the trifle with a dollop of fresh cream and whipped cream for added indulgence.
- Place the assembled trifle in the deep freeze for a quick chill, or refrigerate it if you prefer a slower cooling process.

- Once chilled, your Mango Vanilla Trifle is ready to be enjoyed! Serve it cold and relish the delightful combination of mango, vanilla, and creamy goodness.

by Chef Vikas Kumar, Hotel Royal Orchid



All you need to know about...

Benefits of milk

Source of calcium
Calcium doesn't just protect your bones from being brittle. Calcium also plays a big role in literally making your heart pump by allowing your muscles to contract, a study by Havard suggested. It enables blood to clot, preventing you from bleeding out to death every time you cut yourself. It strengthens your bones and plays a key role in the health of your teeth, nails as well as hair.

Weight loss
Weight Watchers, this one's for you. A cup of milk can give you the feeling of being full. Moreover, it even satisfies your various cravings by simply adding anything from chocolate powder to fruits. Just be sure to not add excessive sugar and you've found yourself the healthiest drink you can consume. What's more, it costs nothing close to the expensive diet stuff people usually invest in.

For acid reflux
Various foods in our diet are usually more acidic and spicy in nature than we expect or are used to. These, then, become the culprits of harrowing acidity and stomach woes. To avoid being in these kinds of sticky situations, it's advised to have a glass of milk after a meal that has smoke smoking out of your ears. Studies suggest milk has a cooling effect that coats the stomach lining and oesophagus against heartburn.

Skin care
While drinking milk isn't always a favourable option, it usually is the combining agent in creating several homemade skin masks that help your skin achieve a glow like no other. In fact, in colonial times, Indian royalty was bathed in milk during special occasions. It's said to have purifying properties and packs in a lot of natural moisturisers, as per a report in the Times Of India. Moreover, reports also suggest that milk has a lightening effect on the skin.

-Femina

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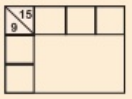
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

Find two positive integers whose sum is 12 and product of one with the square of other will be maximum

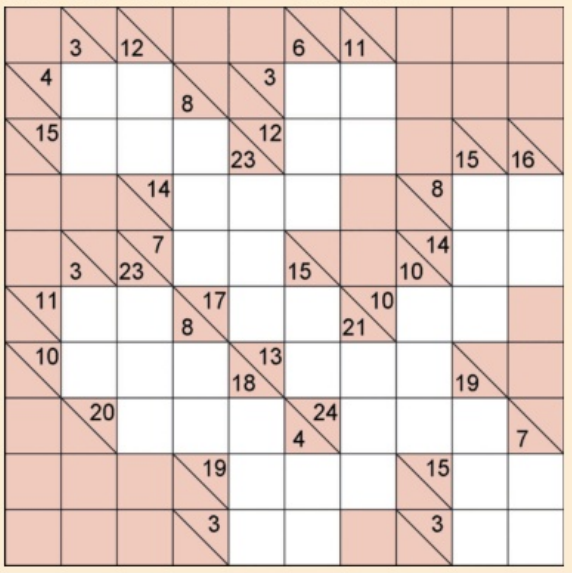
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

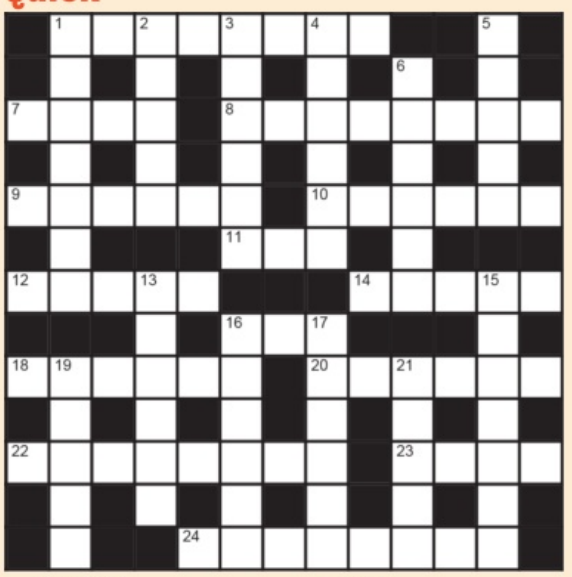


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Arrive behind time (4,4)
7 Multiplex at Garuda Mall (4)
8 Eliminate (3,3,2)
9 Venom or toxin (6)
10 Do an usher's job (4,2)
11 A female deer (3)
12 Looks closely at (5)
14 Farewell (5)
16 Notable interval (3)
18 Foundation author Isaac ___ (6)
20 The Sandman author (6)
22 Surrounding atmosphere (8)
23 Oliver familiarised; top of the head (4)
24 Shaves the head (8)

DOWN

1 Solace, soothe or comfort (7)
2 Blends, mingles (5)
3 Myth (6)
4 Gossip, chatter (6)
5 Supermodel Campbell (5)
6 Amusingly coarse and lewd (6)
13 Stay back, survive or linger (6)
15 Prophets or seers (7)
16 Nevertheless (4,2)
17 Concurs or complies with (6)
19 French river (5)
21 Nearer the centre (5)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: F EQUALS H

RB LBRDD FKDZL BNQS BFCB GCO RL GKLB QORPQSDH FQGCO TFSO FS BQNOL KULBCVDSL ROBK KEEKNBQORBRSL.

Linemaro

Wouldn't we look cute in a wedding photo together?

Mindchow

If you can't help out with a little money, at least give a sympathetic groan

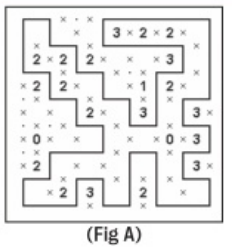
Joke of the day

I felt as out of place as a left-handed violinist in a crowded string section

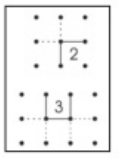
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)



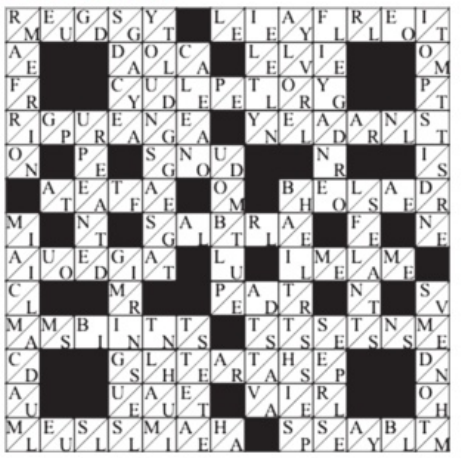
(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9 C				

ACROSS

1 D Mist; 6 Eaten; 7 Trout; 8 I mule; 9 RSPCA

DOWN

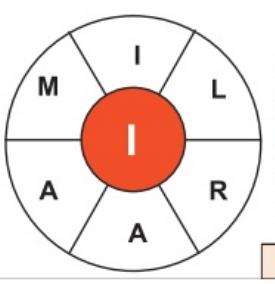
1 Tic me; 2 Ulna I; 3 Rated; 4 Pouts; 5 Mr Set

Mensapuzzle

Ho

100, 99.8, 99.2, ? , 92, 75.8

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

06 Average; **07** Good; **09** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	5	3	1		6		7	
		8		2		5		
4							2	
	3		4					
	4		7		9		6	
					3		9	
	1							3
		6		3		9		
	9		5		4	1	8	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

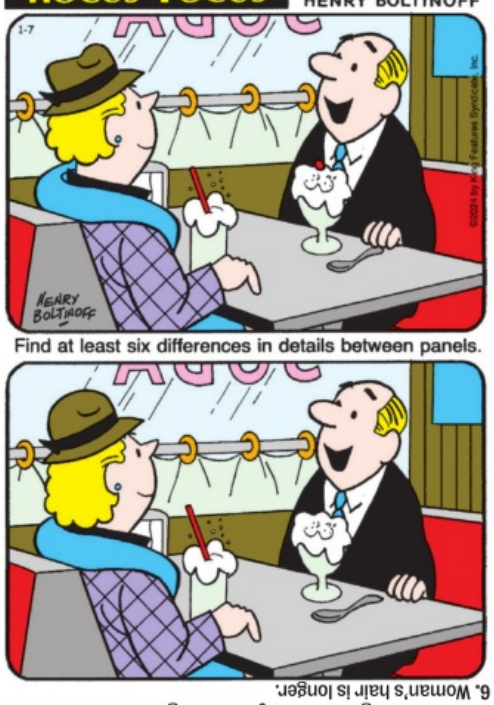
Easy ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 4
5 6 7 8

Medium ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 32
4 6 6 8

Hard ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 56
4 7 9 5

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

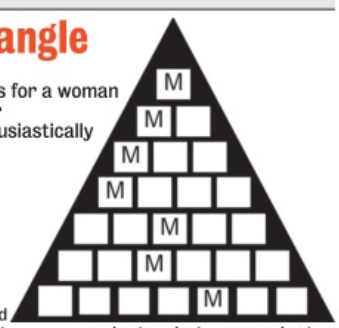
Differences: 1. Hand is moved. 2. Spoon is larger. 3. Straw is longer. 4. Cherry is missing. 5. Hat is different. 6. Woman's hair is longer.

Riddler

As a whole, I am both safe and secure. Behead me, and I become a place of meeting. Behead me again, and I am the partner of ready. Restore me, and I become the domain of beasts. What am I?

Alpha triangle

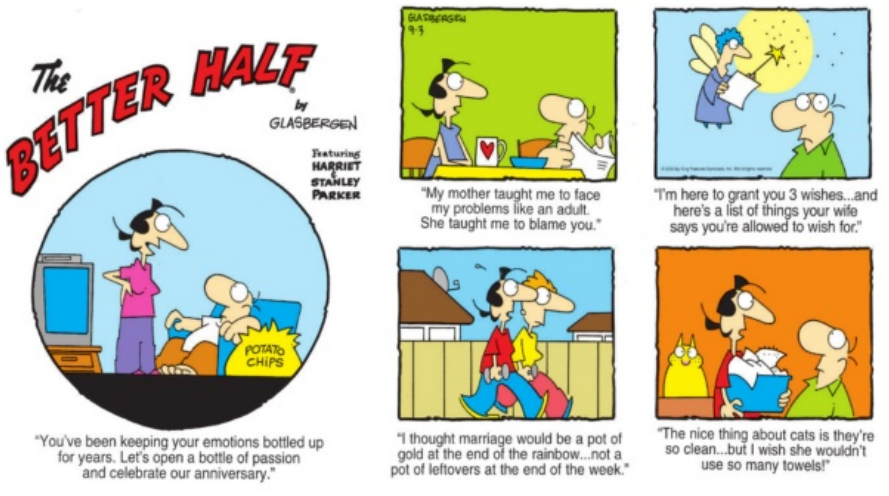
1 13th letter
2 A form of address for a woman
3 Meagabytes abbr
4 Greets over enthusiastically
5 Rooster features
6 Hillside valleys
7 Suits



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS


The BETTER HALF
by GLASBERGEN
Featuring HARRIET & STANLEY PARKER
POTATO CHIPS
"You've been keeping your emotions bottled up for years. Let's open a bottle of passion and celebrate our anniversary."
"My mother taught me to face my problems like an adult. She taught me to blame you."
"I'm here to grant you 3 wishes...and here's a list of things your wife says you're allowed to wish for."
"I thought marriage would be a pot of gold at the end of the rainbow...not a pot of leftovers at the end of the week."
"The nice thing about cats is they're so clean...but I wish she wouldn't use so many towels!"

BABY BLUES
BY RICK KIRKMAN & JERRY SCOTT
OKAY, HERE'S THE SITUATION...
THE SECOND QUARTER JUST ENDED, AND THE SCORE IS TIED.
IT'S GONNA BE TIGHT, BUT I THINK IT'S DOABLE.
THERE'S A FIFTEEN-MINUTE HALFTIME, PLUS COMMERCIALS.
FOODKa
WITH ANY LUCK, WE'LL MAKE IT BACK FOR MOST OF THE SECOND HALF.
YOU SHOULD PROBABLY TIGHTEN THAT CHIN STRAP.

OUR STORY SO FAR...
MING THE MERCILESS HAS RECREATED THE INFAMOUS TOURNAMENTS OF DEATH.* HIS GOAL - THE ELIMINATION OF THOSE WHO ORCHESTRATED HIS DOWNFALL.
FLASH AND DALE FIND THEMSELVES AT THE CENTER OF THE MAELSTROM!
IN THE ENSUING BATTLE BETWEEN MAN AND MONSTER, VULTAN FALLS!
*FIRST SEEN IN ALEX RAYMOND'S CLASSIC 1935 STORY LINE.
FLASH GORDON
By JIM KEEFE
AS THUN LAYS DOWN THE BROKEN BODY OF HIS COMRADE, A SWARM OF MING'S DRAGON MEN ADVANCE.
BARIN, GO AFTER MING AND AURA.
FLASH, FREE YOUR MATE.
I'LL HANDLE THIS RABBLE.
ARE YOU MAD?! THERE'S TOO MANY!
YES... MAD! NOW GO!
RRAHHR!
AS FLASH RACES OFF, COLD EYES APPRAISE HIM- COMPARED TO THE ENRAGED LION MAN, A RELATIVELY EASY MARK...
TO BE CONTINUED

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may face health issues, which may make you impatient. You are advised to control your short-temper nature. You may spend your hard-earned money buying worthless stuff; it may affect your savings. Love birds are advised to avoid discussions on worthless topics; otherwise, there might be some break-up.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today is a good day. In business, you may get new clients, which will be helpful in terms of profit growth. Singles are likely to find a good match. In domestic life, you must avoid hiding anything from your spouse; otherwise, it will create some gap in your relationship. Job seekers may likely get a new job, and there are chances of promotions in current jobs.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, with the help of your strong network, you may implement your business plans. You may use your wisdom to gain profits. There may also be harmony in your domestic life; there may be a good understanding between you and your spouse. Natives related to metal and booking agents will do better.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you are more religious; you may plan to visit some religious place to find peace of mind. You may donate some amount to charity or a spiritual place. People around you may get help and support from you, in terms of finance or moral support. You may enjoy every moment with satisfaction and patience.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may have a dull feeling. You are advised to control your short-temper nature. Your focus is tested many times; you should try to avoid scattering towards your goals. So it is advised not to invest in worthless stuff. Love birds are advised to avoid making arguments on worthless topics.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon. You may make new plans in terms of business, and your colleagues may be with you to implement your plans. You may recover your stuck money from your clients, which may boost liquidity in the business. After late evening, you may feel some depression, which may affect your sound sleep.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you have control over your opponents and hidden enemies. Decisions in legal matters may come in your favour. Your seniors may be happy because of your hard work; you may get new responsibilities in terms of promotion. Singles may find a soul mate.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may be happy. You may plan to buy some creative stuff, which may improve your lifestyle. You may also spend on your friends and family members. You may plan to make investments in assets. Singles may have a good match, and love birds may enjoy their important moments.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may be seeking peace of mind. But the moon's blessings may help you focus on yourself. Investments in property and other assets are advised to be avoided. You may have some happy moments in your domestic life, but you are advised to avoid arrogance and ego with your spouse. Disputes with the business partner are likely to be resolved.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you are blessed by the moon, and your destiny is likely to be with you. You may be more energetic and focused on your work. Your hard work may pay you in terms of success. Your subordinates may help you. You are likely to go for short work-related travel. Some good news may come from your sibling. You may plan to renovate your house or office where your creativity will be tested.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may be able to control your expenditure on worthless things, which may increase your savings. You may be more creative today, and you may use your creativity in your office or at home, which may enhance your social status. Love birds may likely get some support from their family members and friends for marriage.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, messy situations are now under control, and you may feel peace in your mind. You may be able to make a proper balance in expenditure and earnings, which may increase savings. You are advised to avoid too much travelling or overworking; it may affect your health. Students can start planning for their higher studies. Love birds may enjoy their happy moments.

KIDZONE

Sneha S M, 11 Years, Sree Vidya Public High School

Divyashree, 6 Years, N C F E School

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SOLUTIONS

BULL'S EYE
x and y are positive integers
There's only 11 possibilities
x+y+12; x*y^2 is max
1^1·2=1^12^1=122
2^10·2=2^100=200
3^9·2=3^81=243
4^8·2=4^64=256 ...
5^7·2=5^49=245
6^6·2=6^36=216
7^5·2=7^25=175
8^4·2=8^16=128
9^3·2=9^9=81
10^2·2=10^4=40
11^1·2=11^1=11

RIDDLER
Answer: 4 and 8
A stable

AIRMAIL, EAR, HAIR, AMIR, ARIA, HAIR, IRA, MAIL, RAIL

FAST FIVE

C	A	R	P	S
I	L	E	U	M
T	U	T	O	R
E	N	A	T	E
M	I	D	S	T

STRIKE OUT

M	E	S	S	I	A	H	P	S	A	L	M			
A		E	A	T		A	I	L		O				
A	M	B	I	E	N	C	E		N	O	L			
D		S	H	E	A	T	H	E		N				
A	M	B	I	T	S		T	S	E	T	S	E		
C			R			E	A	R		N		V		
A	U	D	I	T		L		I	M	A	M			
M		N		S	A	B	L	E		E		E		
	T	E	T	E		M		H	O	L	E	D		
O		P		G	N	U			R			I		
I	G	U	A	N	A		Y	E	A	R	N	S		
R		Y	U	L	E	L	O	G		P				
A		A	O	C		E	L	I		O				
M	U	G	G	Y		L	E	A	F	L	E	T		

QUICK

												E		
												M		
A	M	B	I	E	N	C	E		N	O	L			
				O		A		E		R		N		
A	S	I	M	O	V		G	A	I	M	A	N		
				E		E	R	A		R				
P	E	E	R	S		A	D	I	O	S				
				L		D	O	E		L				
P	O	I	S	O	N		L	E	A	D	I	N		
	S		E		E	T		B		M				
I	N	O	X		G	E	T	R	I	D	O	F		
	O		I		E		A		R		A			
C	O	M	E	L	A	T	E				N			

MENSA PUZZLE
97.4: the sequence progresses -0.2, -0.6, -1.8, -5.4, -16.2 (ie multiplying the difference by 3 each time).

QUOTE UNCODE
It still holds true that man is most uniquely human when he turns obstacles into opportunities.

SUDOKU

2	5	3	1	4	6	8	7	9
1	6	8	9	2	7	5	3	4
4	7	9	3	8	5	6	2	1
9	3	5	4	6	2	7	1	8
8	4	1	7	5	9	3	6	2
6	2	7	8	1	3	4	9	5
7	1	4	6	9	8	2	5	3
5	8	6	2	3	1	9	4	7
3	9	2	5	7	4	1	8	6

ALPHA TRIANGLE
M, Ms, MBs, Mobs, Combs, Combes, Becomes.

GO FIGURE
Easy
8 - 5 - 6 + 7 = 4
Medium
6 x 4 / 6 x 8 = 32
Hard
5 x 9 + 4 + 7 = 56

LOOP

KAKURO

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 # Director's house burgled
Malayalam film director Joshiy's house was robbed on Saturday. The perpetrators made off with cash and valuables, worth around Rs 1 crore

BangaloreMirror | 16
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The favourite

Parineeti Chopra speaks up about not getting enough work in Bollywood

Parineeti Chopra, who is currently making headlines for her performance in Imtiaz Ali's 'Amar Singh Chamkila', opened up about the reasons behind not getting enough work in the industry.

In an interview with Pinkvilla, Parineeti mentioned the existence of camps, circles, and favourites within the industry. She pointed out that among two equally talented individuals who can contribute equally, one might be favoured while the other may not, resulting in a loss of work opportunities.

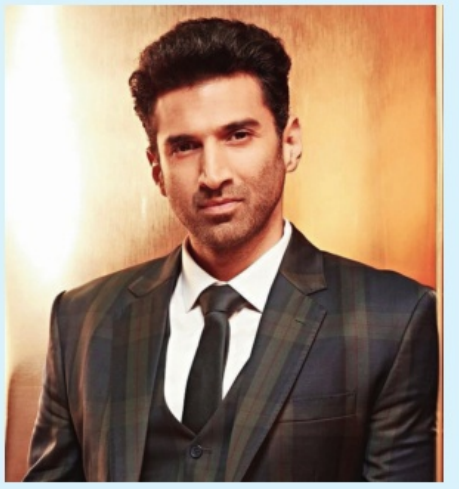
The 'Ishaqzaade' actress urged for a system based on meritocracy, emphasizing that if he can bring the same level of talent and contribution, she should receive equal opportunities regardless of his relationships, affiliations, or circles within the industry.

According to her, getting access to certain actors and access to certain directors leads to work opportunities.

She admitted that if she isn't consistently visible to them, he may miss out on such opportunities. Directed by Imtiaz Ali, Amar Singh Chamkila premiered on Netflix on April 12. The film also stars Apinderdeep Singh, Rahul Mittra, Nisha Bano, Anjum Batra, Vipin Katyal, and Udaybir Sandhumore in pivotal roles.

–ETimes

Not so fast!



Bollywood star Aditya Roy Kapur has a legion of fans, thanks to his exceptional body of work. The actor was recently papped at the Mumbai airport, dressed in a casual blue denim teamed up with a grey T-shirt. The dashing actor had accessorised his OOTD with a black cap, and a shoulder bag. Aditya's ubercool avatar grabbed the attention of the paps.

Aditya Roy Kapur's interaction with the paps at the airport is now going viral on the internet. The 'Malang' actor, known for his warm personality, chatted with the paps on the way to the airport gate. In the video circulating on the internet, Aditya Roy Kapur can be seen hurrying to the airport gate. The paps who are not able to keep up with the actor, requested him to slow down. "Adi aaj aaram se... aaram se (slow down)" the paps asked, to which Aditya responded, "Araam se," and slowed down his pace.

"Aap bohot fast chalte ho (you walk very fast)," a pap said, and the actor replied, "Fast chala kya (Do I walk fast)?" Another pap added, "Haan aap thode lambe bhi ho na (Yes, you are a bit tall as well)."

–ETimes

Accidentally Cupid

We all know that Ranveer Singh fell head over heels for Deepika Padukone during the making of Goliyon Ki Raasleela Raam-Leela. The couple got married after 6 years of dating and now they are expecting their first baby in September.

But many might not know that Sanjay Leela Bhansali initially wanted to cast Kareena Kapoor Khan for the role of Leela. But before the film went on floors,

Kareena exited the project, leading Deepika to take up the role opposite Ranveer.

In her latest interview with BBC, Kareena opened up about accidentally playing cupid for Deepika and Ranveer.

When asked if Deepika and Ranveer ever thanked her for quitting the film which led to their paths crossing and them becoming life partners, Kareena mentioned that she believes in destiny and whatever is meant to be in your life will happen, no matter what your circumstances or situation would be.

She also added that all is written in the stars and everything is not written for everyone. Kareena also shared that she doesn't regret leaving the film, mentioning that maybe it would have been a very different film and maybe that was not the time for the people involved to come together.

–ETimes

'The Darkness Outside Us' for big screen on Elliot's mind

Hollywood actor Elliot Page is toying around with the idea of developing the sci-fi novel 'The Darkness Outside Us' as a movie. The actor has optioned the novel from Eliot Schrefer through his company Pageboy Productions and is planning to bring it to the big screen, reports 'Female First UK'.

The young adult novel has been described as a "mind-bending sci-fi mystery and tender love story about two boys aboard a spaceship sent on a rescue mission."

As per 'Female First UK', Page and his Pageboy Productions partners Matt Jordan Smith and Tuck Dowrey, said in a statement: "We are proud to stand behind Eliot's remarkable work. 'The Darkness Outside Us' is exactly the type of story we want to champion. It's subversive and deeply human at its core. It's a complex love story, an inventive thriller, and a space epic with twists at every turn. We cannot wait to take the next steps towards getting it on the big screen."

The news was first shared by 'The Hollywood Reporter'. Schrefer added: "What would I hope for most for my novel? An agile, young, motivated production company that's buzzy in Hollywood - and that's just what I got with PAGEBOY Productions. I'm so excited by their vision for 'The Darkness Outside Us' and honoured to have the talents of Elliot and Matt and Tuck and the rest of the team devoted to it."

Schrefer released 'The Darkness Outside Us' in 2021 and its sequel 'The Brightness Between Us' will drop in October.

–IANS

Ethereal in ethnic
Pictures that are proof that Genelia D'Souza is the queen of ethnic wear
Watch this story come alive on your device by scanning this QR code